

February 20, 2007

SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 1

DATE 2-21-07

BILL NO. SB 484

Senate Education & Cultural Resources Committee  
State Capitol, Room 303  
Helena, MT 59620

RE: **Support Senate Bill 484**

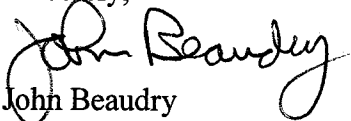
Honorable Chair and Members of Senate Education & Cultural Resources Committee:

Stillwater Mining Company would like to go on record in support of Senate Bill 484 for the following reasons.

- As an employer of more than 1,700 people Stillwater Mining Company understands the need for workforce training.
- A trained workforce is essential for the long term sustainability of any major employer.
- With an annual payroll in excess of \$110 million, Stillwater Mining Company knows the economic significance to local communities and the State to have a regional workforce training facility.
- Stillwater Mining Company along with other private donors provided a donation to the College of Technology, Montana State University-Billings, last year to purchase land for expansion of their facility.
- The proposed authorization to construct a regional workforce training facility at the College of Technology, Montana State University-Billings, will compliment the expansion project already in progress.
- The proposed allocation of \$3.6 million represents an investment in Montana's future that will benefit prospective employees and employers alike, as well as the State.

Stillwater Mining Company supports Senate Bill 484 to construct a regional workforce training facility at the College of Technology.

Sincerely,

  
John Beaudry  
Public Affairs Manager  
Stillwater Mining Company

1321 Discovery Drive  
Billings, Montana 59102

**STILLWATER**  
MINING COMPANY

telephone 406.373.8700  
facsimile 406.373.8701  
www.stillwatermining.com